

VIRGINIA: IN THE LEE COUNTY GENERAL DISTRICT COURT

**TO: ALL PARTIES SCHEDULED TO APPEAR IN THE LEE COUNTY
GENERAL DISTRICT COURT.**

DATE: MARCH 23, 2020

FROM: CHIEF JUDGE SHAWN L. HINES

RE: CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PROCEDURES AND POLICIES

NOTICE

Due to Public Safety and Health concerns related to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, and in accordance with the Declaration of Judicial Emergency issued by the Supreme Court of Virginia, there will be LIMITED access to the Lee County General District Court until April 6, 2020, or as further extended by the Court.

ALL PENDING CASES WILL BE RESCHEDULED EXCEPT FOR THE FOLLOWING:

- (1) Criminal cases in which the Defendant is Incarcerated. If you are a witness in a criminal case and are unsure if the defendant is incarcerated, please call the Clerk's Office or check with the Duffield Regional Jail website for a list of all incarcerated individuals.
- (2) Protective Order Hearings. Please contact the Victim Witness Coordinator for further instructions regarding Protective Order hearings.
- (3) Bond Hearings – only essential witnesses, attorneys and court personnel will be admitted.
- (4) Arraignments for Incarcerated Individuals.

These dates and policies are subject to change. The Clerk's Office will be sending out notices of new court dates once they are rescheduled. Please notify the Clerk of any change of address so that you may receive notice of your rescheduled court date.

In addition to the General District Court itself, the Lee County General District Court's CLERK'S OFFICE is CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC for all but essential business or emergency matters. Please call or email the Clerk's Office in advance so that arrangements can be made and instructions given on how to proceed with any essential business or emergency matters.

CLERK'S OFFICE PHONE: 1-276-346-7729; FAX: 1-276-346-3302
EMAIL: droberts@vacourts.gov

/s/ Shawn L. Hines, Chief Judge